a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Narasimham to examine all aspects relating to the structure, organisation, functions and procedures of the financial system. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 20th November, 1991. The report of the Committee will be proposed on the basis of detailed examination of its recommendations in consultation with Reserve Bank of India and other concerned agencies.

[*Translation*]

**Production and Export of Cotton**

3737. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cotton in the country during the current year so far;

(b) the number of bales of cotton used for manufacturing cotton cloth this year;

(c) this likely effect on cotton growers of the reduction in Excise duty on man-made cloth and synthetic fire as proposed to new textile policy;

(d) whether the Government contemplate to have a buffer stock of cotton or to increase its export; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The Cotton Advisory Board at its meeting held on 29th August, 1991 had estimated the production cotton during 1991-92 season at 130 lakh bales. However, due to subsequent failure of rains in some parts of the country, the expected production is likely to be lower than the earlier estimate.

(b) During September - October, 1991 about 13 lakh bales of cotton is estimated to have been used by the Mill/Power/loom/ Handloom Sector for manufacture of cotton cloth. During the cotton season 1990-91, about 83 lakh bales of cotton was used by these sectors for manufacture of cotton cloth.

(c) Government has not taken any final decision in the matter of review of the Textile Policy of 1985.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Release of Smugglers**

3738. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of smugglers released during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of smugglers released from house arrest by the Advisory Board during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The total number of smugglers released, including those released by the Advisor Boards, during each of the last three years under COFEPOSA Act indicated in the table below:

| *Year* | *Released by Advisory Board* | *Total releases* |
|---|---|---|
| 1989 | 227 | 731 |
| 1990 | 322 | 948 |
| 1991 (Provisional upto No., 1991) | 146 | 613 |

Number of smugglers released by the Central Advisory Board during the above period under the PIT-NDPS Act is as under:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1989 | 13 |
| 1990 | 6 |
| 1991 (Provisional upto Nov., 91) | 5 |

The remaining information under the PIT-NDPS Act is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

**Assistance to Spun Silk Manufactures**

3739. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRSAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spun silk manufactures are facing crisis due to shortage of silk year and the silk industry has been adversely affected due to the advance licence and replenishment licence schemes; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Development of Sericulture in Rajasthan**

3740. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had provided any assistance to the Government of Rajasthan for the development of sericulture in the State during 1990;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the programmes implemented in the State and the results achieved so far;

(d) whether some centres set up for the development of sericulture in the State have been closed;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government to promote sericulture in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The central Silk Board has extended the following assistance to the Govt. of Rajasthan for the development of sericulture in the State during 1990-91;

1. Supply of 20 tonnes of mulberry cuttings at subsidised cost.

2. Supply of 91731 disease free layings.

3. Arranging training for 399 farmers and 23 reelers. Besides, the Technical Services Center, Chawkie Rearing Centres, Demonstration cum Training Centers & Sericulture Training School established by the Central Silk Board in the State provided necessary support for development of sericulture in the State.

(c) In addition to its ongoing normal plan programmes in the State, the Central Silk